

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed March 11, 2004 for the above application in which claims 1-15 are now pending. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims, in view of the following, is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejection – 35 USC § 102(b)

Claims 1-14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Takai et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,715,339 (hereafter “Takai”).

Claims 1, 11 and 13 have been amended and new claim 15 has been added. It is respectfully submitted that Takai does not anticipate any of the pending claims.

Amended claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, “a transmitter section including an array of transmitter modules each having therein a two-dimensional array of lasers sharing a common substrate that are individually operative to convert a respective electrical signal into a corresponding optical signal[.]” This aspect is nowhere disclosed in Takai. As shown in FIG. 4 of Takai there is only a one-dimensional array of devices. Accordingly, claim 1 is not anticipated and is allowable over Takai.

Amended claim 11 similarly recites, *inter alia*, “an array of transmitter modules each having a two-dimensional array of lasers sharing a common substrate therein, each of the lasers being operative to convert a respective electrical signal into a corresponding optical signal[.]” Accordingly, claim 11 is allowable for the same reason.

Amended claim 13 also analogously recites, *inter alia*, “an array of receiver modules each having a two dimensional array of photodetectors sharing a common substrate and individually operative to convert a respective optical signal into a corresponding electrical signal[.]” Takai does not disclose this aspect either. Accordingly, claim 13 is not anticipated and is allowable over Takai.

As to new claim 15, that claim is allowable over Takai, at least because the recited "transceiver section" is wholly absent from Takai.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the pending claims are now allowable and early, favorable action in that regard is solicited.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event any issues remain and the Examiner believes they could potentially be resolved as part of a telephone conversation, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned at the phone number indicated.

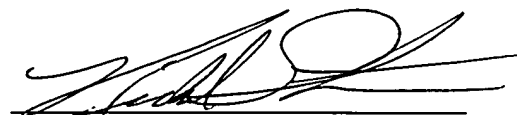
The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees required for the extension of time or consideration of this Amendment on the merits to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 4024-4065.

Respectfully submitted,

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